DETAILED ACTION

1. This is the third Office action on the merits of Application No. 10/593,380, filed 10 October 2006. Claims 25-47 are pending.

Documents

2. The following documents have been received and filed as part of the patent application:

- Replacement Sheet of Drawing, received on 06/04/07
- Declaration and Power of Attorney, received on 09/20/06
- Information Disclosure Statement, received on 09/20/06
- Copy of Foreign Priority Document, received on 09/20/06

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

3. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 26 October 2009 has been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's attorney, Michael J. Bujold, on 16 December 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 25:

- Lines 45-47, "shifting element (K1, K2) so upon simultaneous disengagement of an engaged frictional shifting element (K1 or K2) and engagement of the disengaged frictional shifting element (K2 or K2) continuous traction is achieved for each change in ratio stages" has been amended as --shifting element (K1, K2) so upon simultaneous disengagement of an engaged one of the first and the second frictional shifting elements (K1 or K2) and engagement of the disengaged one of the first and the second frictional shifting elements (K1 or K2) continuous traction is achieved for each change in ratio stages--.

Claim 29:

- Lines 31-34, "the second, the third, the fourth, and the sixth shape-fit shifting elements (B, C, D, F) are axially located between an input end of the transmission input shaft (3) and the first and the second frictional shifting elements (K1, K2)" has been amended as --the second, the third, the fourth, and the sixth shape-fit shifting elements (B, C, D, F) are axially located, in a power flow direction,

between an input end of the transmission input shaft (3) and the first and the second frictional shifting elements (K1, K2)--.

Claim 47:

- Lines 18-21, "the first and second frictional shifting elements (K1, K2) are axially located within the housing between the second, the third, the fourth and the sixth shape-fit shifting elements (B, C, D, F) and the first, the second and the third planetary gear sets (P1 to P3)" has been amended as --the first and second frictional shifting elements (K1, K2) are axially located, in a power flow direction, within the housing between the second, the third, the fourth and the sixth shape-fit shifting elements (B, C, D, F) and the first, the second and the third planetary gear sets (P1 to P3)--.
- Line 30 "(K2 or K2)" has been amended as --(K1 or K2)--.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 25-47 are allowed.

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 25:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a dual clutch planetary transmission as recited in claim 25; specifically, wherein the first and the second frictional shifting elements are directly connected by first half-clutches of the frictional shifting elements with two different shafts of at least the first planetary gear set and

second clutch-halves of the first and the second frictional shifting elements are connectable with at least the second, the third, the fourth, the fifth and the sixth shape-fit shifting elements.

Claim 29:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a dual clutch planetary transmission as recited in claim 29; specifically, wherein the second, the third, the fourth and the sixth shape-fit shifting elements are axially located, in a power flow direction, between an input end of the transmission input shaft and the first and the second frictional shifting elements.

Claim 47:

The prior art of record fails to show or render obvious a dual clutch planetary transmission as recited in claim 47; specifically, wherein the first, the second frictional shifting elements are axially located, in power flow direction, within the housing between the second, the third, the fourth and the sixth shape-fit shifting elements and the first, the second and the third planetary gear sets.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID D. LE whose telephone number is (571)272-7092. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (0900-1730).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David D. Le can be reached on 571-272-7092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David D. Le/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3655
12/17/2009

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